

Message Text

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ARBA - MR. ADELMAN (PHONE)

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TO AMCONSUL STUTTGART PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SGEN

SUBJECT: THE HERITAGE GROUP COUNCIL

REF: STUTTGART 0040

1. THE HERITAGE GROUP COUNCIL FOR CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION, INC., 1028 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036, AND ITS NATIONAL ALL GERMAN/AMERICAN HERITAGE GROUP CONFERENCES HAVE PROFESSED ON OCCASION TO "SPEAK FOR THE MAJORITY OF ALL ORGANIZED GERMAN AMERICANS AND TO BE THE "EDUCATIONAL ARM OF THE GERMAN/AMERICAN MOVEMENT." MOST OTHER GERMAN/AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS DISPUTE THIS. RECENT PROJECTS HAVE INCLUDED, IN ADDITION TO ITS NATIONAL CONFERENCES, ESTABLISHMENT OF ITS OWN SISTER CITIES PROGRAM (NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH CU'S ONGOING PROGRAMS), AND BICENTENNIAL PROJECTS.

2. THE HERITAGE GROUP AND ITS PRESIDENT, DR. SITKO, HOLD CONSERVATIVE VIEWS, SIMILAR TO THOSE OF REFUGEE/EXPellee ORGANIZATIONS IN GERMANY. SITKO HAS SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF

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THE WORLD ASSOCIATION OF UPPER SILESIAANS AND IS PUBLISHER

OF ITS MAGAZINE, "NEW APPROACH". HE REGULARLY WRITES TO THE WHITE HOUSE AND TO SENIOR US OFFICIALS IN SUPPORT OF VIEWS HELD BY GERMAN EXPELLEES. US OFFICIALS HAVE GENERALLY AVOIDED HAVING THEIR NAMES ASSOCIATED WITH MR. SITKO, THE HERITAGE GROUP OR THEIR ACTIVITIES.

3. THE HERITAGE GROUP COUNCIL HAS NO OFFICIAL STATUS OR MANDATE FROM THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL ADMINISTRATION (ARBA). SITKO, ALONG WITH OTHER PERSONS INTERESTED IN ETHNIC-RELATED BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES, WAS INVITED TO A MEETING SEVERAL YEARS AGO, SPONSORED BY THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE OF THE FORMER AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROMOTING BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES AMONG ETHNIC GROUPS. SINCE THEN, HE HAS IMPLIED IN CORRESPONDENCE THAT HE HAS AN ADVISORY CAPACITY WITH THE BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION. IN MAY 1973 HE CLAIMED TO HAVE "THE ENDORSEMENT OF BOTH THE DEMOCRATIC AND REPUBLICAN LEADERSHIP ON THE BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION". (FYI-- A PUBLIC LAW WHICH BECAME EFFECTIVE JANUARY 11 ABOLISHED THE ARBC AND CREATED THE ARBA WITH A NEW ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE).

4. ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND ON HERITAGE COUNCIL AND SITKO BEING POUCHED STUTTGART AND BONN. KISSINGER

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